

Message Text

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45

ACTION DLOS-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-05 AGR-05

AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 OFA-01

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01

OES-03 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 OIC-02 /145 W

----- 065920

R 070733Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4718

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS, LT

SUBJECT: GOL VIEWS ON LOS CONFERENCE

REF: MASERU 176

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED LOS CONFERENCE ISSUES ON MARCH 5 WITH THABO MAKEKA, LEGAL OFFICER IN MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND MEMBER GOL DELEGATION LOS CONFERENCE. HE IS BEST INFORMED MEMBER OF DELEGATION ON LOS MATTERS AND WILL BE VERY OPEN TO DISCUSSIONS WITH MEMBERS U.S. DELEGATION. HE DEPARTS MARCH 10 FOR GENEVA TO BE FOLLOWED LATER BY OTHER MEMBERS OF DELEGATION.

2. EMBOFF BRIEFED MAKEKA ON ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO U.S., STRESSING RIGHTS OF UNIMPEDED PASSAGE THROUGH STRAITS AND
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URGENCY OF COMING UP WITH FRAMEWORK OF AGREEMENT DURING

CURRENT SESSION. MAKEKA IS VERY FAMILIAR WITH U.S. POSITION THROUGH OUR PREVIOUS CONVERSATIONS AND HIS ATTENDANCE AT CARACAS.

3. MAKEKA SAID ISSUE OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO LESOTHO IS HAVING ACCESS TO SEA GUARANTEED IN MULTILATERAL TREATY. IT MOST LIKELY LESOTHO WOULD NOT TAKE PART IN TREATY WHICH DID NOT EMBODY THIS GUARANTEE.

4. OTHER MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE TO LESOTHO, BUT ON WHICH IT PREPARED TO BE FLEXIBLE IF IT CAN SECURE PRIME OBJECTIVE, ARE RELATIVELY NARROW (NO MORE THAN 200 MILES) ECONOMIC ZONE UNDER JURISDICTION OF COASTAL STATE, REVENUE SHARING IN EXPLOITATION OF NON-LIVING RESOURCES OF CONTINENTAL MARGINS AND DEEP SEABED, AND ESTABLISHMENT OF MACHINERY TO PERMIT DIRECT INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION IN EXPLOITATION OF DEEP SEABED. HE EMPHASIZED THESE MATTERS ARE DISTINCTLY OF SECONDARY IMPORTANCE TO LESOTHO IN COMPARISON TO LANDLOCKED ISSUE.

5. ON STRAITS ISSUE, LESOTHO SEES MERIT IN U.S. POSITION BUT HOPED STRAITS COUNTRIES COULD SHOW MORE FLEXIBILITY IN FINDING COMPROMISE BASED ON SOME FORM OF INNOCENT PASSAGE. EMBOFF EXPLAINED WHY INNOCENT PASSAGE DOCTRINE INADEQUATE FROM U.S. POINT OF VIEW. MAKEKA SAID HE UNDERSTOOD AND, IN ANY CASE, LESOTHO WOULD NOT JOIN IN SUPPORT OF THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH OPPOSE UNIMPEDED PASSAGE. HE SAID HE WOULD TRY TO FIND WAYS TO BE HELPFUL TO U.S. STRAITS POSITION. HE DOUBTFUL THAT OAU CAN PRESENT UNITED FRONT ON STRAITS ISSUE OR, FOR THAT MATTER, MANY OTHER ISSUES.

6. MAKEKA SAID LANDLOCKED GROUP WOULD BEGIN CAUCUSING IN GENEVA MARCH 7 AND GROUP OF 77 ON MARCH 10.

7. MAKEKA GREATLY APPRECIATED CONSULTATIONS WITH U.S. DELEGATES AT CARACAS AND WILL LOOK FORWARD TO SAME AT GENEVA.
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